

APHIDS IN STOMACHS OF SMALL VERTEBRATES.

By GEORGE F. KNOWLTON, Logan, Utah.

Recently Professor M. A. Palmer looked over a series of my aphid slides. Among these were several slides containing mounted aphid specimens taken from stomachs of small birds and lizards. Recognizable aphid specimens were as follows:

Cinara atra (G.-P.) from stomach of a long-tailed chickadee. This bird was taken east of Fruitland, Utah, July 18, 1941, in a juniper-pinion area. Numerous specimens of this same aphid species also were found in the stomach of a pine ciskin, collected nearby on the same date and area.

Alphis helichrysi Kalt. Specimens were present in the stomach of a chipping sparrow, collected in Arron Canyon, Cache County, Utah, August 28, 1941.

A. medicaginis Koch. Two wingless specimens were present in a sagebrush swift stomach, *Sceloporus graciosus graciosus* (B.-G.) collected in Government Creek Canyon, Tooele County, Utah, June 3, 1953.

Artemisaphis artemisicola (Williams). In sagebrush swift stomach, *Sceloporus g. graciosus* at Government Creek Canyon, Utah, June 5, 1952.

Macrosiphum pisi (Kalt.). A number of pea aphids were present in stomachs of vesper sparrows taken at Hyde Park, Utah, July 17, 1941. Pea aphids also were present in the stomach of a small sagebrush swift lizard, *Sceloporus g. graciosus*, collected in an *Artemisia-Chrysothamus* area in Cedar Valley, Utah, May 29, 1941 by H. F. Thornley and the writer; and in a small *Uta stansburiana stansburiana* (B.-G.) lizard's stomach, the specimen having been taken on the margin of an alfalfa field next to range land at Elgin, Utah, May 8, 1941.

Macrosiphum artemisiphilum K.-A. A specimen of this sage infesting aphid also was present in the sagebrush swift lizard stomach, *Sceloporus g. graciosus*, taken in Cedar Valley on January 29, 1941. Several additional aphid specimens were taken from stomachs of these swifts, collected in the Government Creek area of Tooele County, June 3, 1953.

Pseudoeopameibaphis tridentatae (Wilson). This species made up part of the aphid material found in a rock wren stomach, from a specimen collected at Dolomite, Tooele County, Utah, September 28, 1941, by W. D. Fronk and the writer. A few mites also were present in this stomach.

Epameibaphis sp. in sagebrush swift stomach, collected in sage area of Government Creek Canyon, Tooele County, Utah, June 3, 1953.

Pemphigus balsamiferae Williams. A winged specimen, well cleared from digestion (as often is the case), was in the stomach of a brown shouldered uta lizard, *Uta s. stansburiana*, collected in a sage-juniper area near Oak City, Millard County, Utah, September 28, 1941.

A lizard in my clothing: "Ants in the pants" is a common way of referring to a restless person. Frequently it is an actual occurrence. I can attest to the latter, after experimenting with ant control during various summers since 1923. My most unpleasant experiences with ant stings and bites on the legs were received from western harvester ants (largely *Pogonomyrmex occidentalis* Cresson) during 1951 through 1953. These occurred largely while I was experimenting with 25% heptachlor powder. This greatly annoys them when applied over nest entrances for control.

My most interesting experience with "ants in my personal apparel" occurred near Moab, Utah, on April 24, 1953. A stop was made along the highway north of the Colorado River, about one-half mile west of the river bridge. I had just "swept" short Russian thistle plant growth with an insect net, capturing 1 to 2 beet leafhoppers, *Circulifer tenellus* (Baker), in each series of 15 sweeps. A lizard, *Uta stansburiana stansburiana* (Baird and Girard) which was only one-half grown, ran across the lightly vegetated area near me. I tried to capture it with my insect net handle. However it ran to my feet, up my shoe and into my left trousers leg. Knowing I had this gentle little pet roaming about inside my clothing caused me to feel restless. Several times I thought I felt the small lizard creeping about in various areas of my clothes. Approximately twenty minutes after it had invaded my apparel, and while I was riding with County Agricultural Agent Paul R. Grimshaw in his car, I felt something on the middle of my back, just below my shoulder blades. Mr. Grimshaw investigated, and together we captured the lizard. On careful stomach examination, one ant, 2 beet leafhoppers, 1 small caterpillar, 1 termite and 1 springtail (*Collembola*) were found to have been recently eaten, plus two tender leaves of Russian thistle.

A second lizard of this species was collected while the above mentioned specimen still "haunted" my clothing. It was a mature female. Its stomach held one false chinch bug nymph, *Nysius ericae* Schill., three ants, one small weevil, a small fly, and insect fragments.—GEORGE F. KNOWLTON, Utah State Agricultural College, Logan, Utah.